Strike by AIBEA

538. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY:
SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI:
SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one day token strike was called by the All India Bank Employees Association;

(b) whether it is also a fact that AIBEA protested against the anti-labour and unfair labour policies of Standard-Chartered Bank;

(c) whether the foreign bank was forcing Indian Employees out of employment through inter-State transfer;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA) went on a strike on 4th January, 2002.

(b) to (e) AIBEA protested against the transfer of some of the employees of Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) and engagement of contract labour by SCB for data processing. Regarding transfer, the Bank submitted that the transfer orders issued by the Bank are in line with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the Standard Chartered Employees Federation (affiliated to AIBEA) on 6th November, 2001. A writ petition filed by the Standard Chartered Bank Employees Union before the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta challenging the transfer orders was dismissed. The appeal filed by the Union in this regard was also dismissed. As regards data processing by SCOPE, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had permitted SCB to process the back office data through SCOPE, an Indian subsidiary of SCB Pic U.K. with the required regulatory safeguards relating to data segregation, data integrity, RBI's access to the data, etc.

Illegal import racket

539. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captiond "Illegal import racket busted" which appeared in The Times of India, New Delhi on 24th January, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of items confiscated by Government and whether all these items were imported illegally; and

(c) what action Government proposed to take to stop the import of items such as cosmetics, fabrics and shoes for sale in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Case-wise details of items seized/confiscated by Government in the cases reported in the news-items, which involved illegal import of goods, are as follows:

Sl. No.	Goods	Value of the goods seized	Value of the goods confiscated
1.	Cosmetics, toiletries and fabrics	Rs. 68,74,060/-	No confiscation so far as the case has not been adjudicated as yet
2.	Cosmetics, toiletries and shoes	Rs. 27,12,565/-	No confiscation so far as the case has not been adjudicated as yet
3.	Fresh orchid flowers and Thai Bonsai Plants	Rs. 33,562/-	Rs. 23,160/- (balance goods redeemed on payment of fine of Rs. 5000/-)

(c) All field formations of the Customs department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to detect and prevent smuggling of contraband goods including cosmetics, fabrics and shoes into the country.

New Board of Management for banks

540. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the case of some nationalised banks the Boards of Management are being continued though their term has expired;

(b) if so, the details of such banks; and

(c) by when the new Boards would be constituted?